

wherein upon zooming from the short focal length extremity to the long focal length extremity, at least said negative first lens group and said positive second lens group are moved;

wherein a diaphragm is provided on the object side of said positive second lens group, and moves integrally therewith; and

wherein said zoom lens system satisfies the following conditions:

$$0.25 < R1/D1 < 0.55$$

$$0.25 < f2/TL < 0.45$$

wherein

R1 designates the radius of curvature of the image-side surface of said negative meniscus lens element, which constitutes said negative first lens group;

D1 designates the distance between said negative first lens group and said positive second lens group at the short focal length extremity;

f2 designates the focal length of said positive second lens group; and

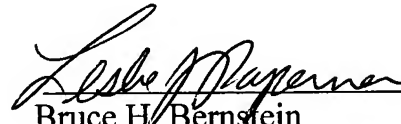
TL designates the distance along the optical axis from the most object-side surface of said negative first lens group to the most image-side surface of said positive third lens group, at the short focal length extremity.

### REMARKS

By the above amendment, claim 1 has been amended to insert the claim number.

If there should be any questions, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,  
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